United Nations

Framework Convention on Climate Change

FCCC/SBSTA/2015/INF.3

Distr.: General
30 April 2015

English only

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
Forty-second session
Bonn, 1–11 June 2015

Item 12 of the provisional agenda
Cooperation with other international organizations

Summary of cooperative activities with United Nations entities and intergovernmental organizations that contribute to the work under the Convention

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The secretariat engages in collaborative activities, initiatives and programmes with United Nations entities, convention secretariats and intergovernmental organizations that enhance and contribute to the work under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol. The key objective of the secretariat in such engagement is to support the implementation of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol and to support the UNFCCC process and Parties to the Convention in an efficient and effective manner. This document contains information on the relevant activities the secretariat has undertaken with other intergovernmental organizations since the fortieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.

GE.15-08648 (E)

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), at its thirtieth session, requested the secretariat to prepare, before sessions at which the agenda item on cooperation with relevant international organizations is to be taken up, an information paper summarizing relevant cooperative activities.[1]

B. Background

2. Many international organizations, all with varying sets of expertise, know-how and resources, work on addressing climate change. Parties to the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol have given the secretariat mandates that require its engagement with relevant actors worldwide in order to ensure the coordination of actions and to provide guidance to such actors on the relevant mandates. Cooperation among institutions facilitates the transfer and leverage of resources.

3. Article 7, paragraph 2(l), of the Convention states that the Conference of the Parties (COP) shall seek and utilize the services and cooperation of, and information provided by, competent international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies. Thus, the secretariat gives high priority to working with other international organizations, including United Nations entities, secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements and the scientific community.

4. In accordance with the mandate given at SBSTA 40,[2] the secretariat has continued its cooperation with several international organizations, including those referred to in decision 1/CP.19, paragraph 2(d), whereby organizations in a position to do so were urged and requested to provide support to Parties in their domestic preparations for their intended nationally determined contributions.

5. This document summarizes the main activities carried out by the secretariat in cooperation with other international organizations since April 2014, when the previous such summary[3] was presented to the SBSTA.

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

6. The SBSTA may wish to take note of the information provided in this document and to invite Parties to provide guidance on the scope and direction of the cooperative activities presented in chapters II and III below. The SBSTA may also wish to make recommendations on (a) key priority areas in which the secretariat should enhance efforts to leverage the potential contributions of other intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) to addressing climate change; and (b) possible approaches to such efforts.

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[1] FCCC/SBSTA/2009/3, paragraph 128.
[2] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraph 210.
[3] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/INF.8.

II. Activities initiated by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

A. Activities

7. The United Nations system is engaged in a coordinated effort to support the international community in addressing the challenge of climate change. United Nations entities have put in place a variety of programmes and projects in order to address climate change. Each entity's contribution to this joint effort is based on its area of expertise, mandate and resources.

8. The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) is the highest-level coordination forum of the United Nations system. It supports and reinforces coordination among the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system on social, economic and related matters. The secretariat participates in the work of the Working Group on Climate Change of the High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP), one of the three high-level committees under the CEB. The Group is currently chaired by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

9. In November 2014, the CEB showed how the United Nations system is working together to support climate change action at the global, regional and national levels in a report entitled "How the United Nations System Supports Ambitious Action on Climate Change: The United Nations System Delivering as One on Climate Change and Sustainable Development".[4] Approximately 40 United Nations specialized agencies, funds, programmes and other bodies contributed to the report through the HLCP Working Group on Climate Change.

B. Secretary-General's Climate Change Support Team

10. The secretariat places high value on its close coordination and collaboration with the United Nations Headquarters, in particular with the Climate Change Support Team of the Secretary-General. The secretariat ensures good communication and coordination with the Team through the liaison officer based at the latter's offices. It also provides support and advice on relevant policy discussions to United Nations entities based in New York, United States of America, and liaises, as appropriate, with permanent missions to the United Nations Headquarters.

11. During 2014, the secretariat supported the Climate Change Support Team in contributing to the organization of the Climate Summit convened by the Secretary-General at the United Nations Headquarters on 23 September 2014.

III. Specific areas of cooperation

12. This chapter provides an overview of the cooperative activities, initiatives and programmes of the secretariat. It is not, however, a comprehensive account thereof. Further information on some of the activities can be found in documents prepared under the relevant agenda items of the SBSTA and other subsidiary bodies, as appropriate.

[4] Available at <http://www.unsceb.org/content/how-un-system-supports-ambitious-action-climate-change>.

A. Technology

1. Implementation of the Technology Mechanism

13. Article 4, paragraph 1(c), of the Convention stipulates that all Parties are to promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in all relevant sectors. COP 16 established the Technology Mechanism to facilitate the implementation of enhanced action on technology development and transfer in order to support the full implementation of the Convention. The Technology Mechanism consists of two components: the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN).[5]

14. The secretariat has engaged with a wide range of stakeholders at the international, regional and national levels in its support of the work of the TEC. This includes supporting the internal task forces of the TEC, which include representatives of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the South Centre, and which draw on the work of other United Nations entities and IGOs.

15. The secretariat also engaged in collaboration with United Nations entities and IGOs in organizing TEC meetings and events. Several United Nations entities and IGOs participated in the 9th and 10th meetings of the TEC, organized by the secretariat. United Nations entities and IGOs also participated in these meetings via live webcast and social media platforms managed by the secretariat.

16. As part of the 9th meeting of the TEC, held in Bonn, Germany, the secretariat helped it to organize a thematic dialogue on climate technology financing on 19 August 2014. The dialogue included a panel discussion among representatives of, inter alia, the Asian Development Bank, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

17. As part of the 10th meeting of the TEC, also held in Bonn, the secretariat helped it to organize a thematic dialogue on distributed renewable energy technology on 10 March 2015. The dialogue included presentations by and a panel discussion among representatives of, inter alia, the International Energy Agency (IEA), the Inter-American Development Bank and IRENA.

18. The secretariat supported the TEC in organizing a workshop on national systems of innovation on 13 and 14 October 2014 in Bonn. During the workshop, presentations were made by representatives of IEA, the Organization of American States, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)–Technical University of Denmark (DTU) Partnership and the World Intellectual Property Organization. Among the participants in the workshop were representatives of the CTCN, the European Patent Office, IRENA, the South Centre and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

19. The secretariat engaged closely with the CTCN during the reporting period. The secretariat supported the COP in its oversight of the CTCN and closely followed the work of the Advisory Board of the CTCN. The secretariat also continued to maintain a close working relationship with UNEP as the host of the Climate Technology Centre and participated in UNEP regional training workshops for national designated entities.

2. Technology needs assessments

20. During the reporting period, the secretariat collaborated with the GEF and UNEP to initiate a new technology needs assessment global project through the Poznan strategic

[5] Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 117.

programme on technology transfer. This project will provide support to 28 developing country Parties to conduct or update their technology needs assessments. The secretariat also continued to collaborate with the GEF and UNEP to support developing country Parties in implementing the results of their technology needs assessments (including technology action plans and project ideas).

B. Finance

1. Green Climate Fund

21. The secretariat of the GCF maintains close collaboration with the UNFCCC secretariat. By decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 102, the COP designated the GCF as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism. The arrangements between the COP and the GCF state that the secretariats of the Convention and the GCF may, as necessary and as directed by the COP and the GCF Board, respectively, cooperate and exchange views on matters relevant to the operation of the Financial Mechanism, including the implementation of the arrangements between the COP and the GCF, coordination with other international financing channels and participation at the other body's meetings.

22. The UNFCCC secretariat has followed the developments related to the GCF as it works towards its full operationalization. The secretariat continues to closely follow the meetings of the GCF Board as the GCF aims to start taking decisions on programme and project proposals in 2015 and to make the necessary preparations to assess proposals and facilitate Board decisions on funding in 2015.

23. Representatives of the GCF secretariat attended numerous meetings and events held during sessions under the Convention, such as technical expert meetings under the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) and the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) outreach event on financing for forests, and engaged with Parties and stakeholders on climate finance related issues.

2. Standing Committee on Finance

24. At COP 16,[6] Parties established the SCF to assist the COP in exercising its functions related to the Financial Mechanism, such as improving coherence and coordination in the delivery of climate change financing, rationalization of the Financial Mechanism, mobilization of financial resources, and measurement, reporting and verification of support provided to developing country Parties. The SCF, supported by the secretariat, is currently working on and implementing its communication strategy.

25. The secretariat supports the organization of the SCF Forum by facilitating the participation of, inter alia, the private sector, financial institutions and academia. The second SCF Forum, which focused on mobilizing adaptation finance, took place on 21 and 22 June 2014 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. It was organized with the secretariat's support, in collaboration with the Climate Investment Funds Partnership Forum, through effective cooperation with the Climate Investment Funds Administrative Unit and the Inter-American Development Bank. It attracted a wide range of stakeholders, including representatives of Parties, financial institutions, national and multilateral development banks, governments, think tanks, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international organizations and academia. The SCF is currently planning the third SCF Forum, which is expected to focus on the issue of finance for forests. In addition, the secretariat continues to support the SCF with regard to the further enhancement and maintenance of its virtual

[6] Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 112.

forum,[7] for example by issuing open calls for input from stakeholders interested in climate finance.

26. The SCF closely cooperated with various stakeholders, including in matters such as the fifth review of the Financial Mechanism and the provision of draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism. During the 7th, 8th and 9th meetings of the SCF, representatives of the GEF and the GCF engaged in substantive discussions with the SCF on this guidance. In addition, the SCF is expected to further interact with the Adaptation Fund Board secretariat on the issue of possible future institutional linkages and relations between the Adaptation Fund and other institutions under the Convention.[8]

27. The SCF, with the support of the secretariat, also closely collaborates with climate finance stakeholders specializing in the measurement, reporting and verification of climate finance flows. That collaboration led to the publishing of the first biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows in 2014. As the SCF initiates its work for the second biennial assessment, it is planning to issue calls for input from such stakeholders and interact with them via technical meetings, as well as to exchange information with other similar thematic bodies and forums outside the Convention.[9]

3. In-session workshop on long-term climate finance in 2014

28. In 2014, the in-session workshop on long-term climate finance was held on 11 and 12 June in Bonn, in conjunction with the fortieth sessions of the subsidiary bodies.[10] The workshop was open to all Parties and admitted observer organizations attending the sessions. Climate finance experts from international organizations such as UNEP, the Overseas Development Institute and the South Centre actively participated in the workshop through scene-setting presentations, panels and breakout group discussions.

4. Adaptation Fund

29. The secretariat continues to participate in the meetings of the Adaptation Fund Board by providing technical advice, including on the legal interpretation of decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP).

30. In 2014, the secretariat published a technical paper on the second review of the Adaptation Fund in collaboration with the Adaptation Fund Board secretariat.[11] Furthermore, the secretariat constantly collaborates with the World Bank as the interim trustee of the Adaptation Fund, and will continue to interact with the Adaptation Fund Board secretariat on the issue of possible future institutional linkages and relations between the Adaptation Fund and other institutions under the Convention.

5. Global Environment Facility

31. By decision 3/CP.4, the COP decided that the GEF should be an entity entrusted with the operation of the Financial Mechanism. The memorandum of understanding between the COP and the GEF states that the secretariats of the Convention and the GEF shall cooperate and exchange on a regular basis views and experiences necessary to

[7] <www.unfccc.int/SCF/Forum>.

[8] All documents and reports on the meetings of the SCF are available at <http://unfccc.int/ 6881.php>.

[9] More information on the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows is available at <http://unfccc.int/8034.php>.

[10] See document FCCC/CP/2014/3 for the summary report on this workshop.

[11] FCCC/TP/2014/7.

facilitate the effectiveness of the Financial Mechanism in assisting Parties to implement the Convention.[12]

32. In 2014, the GEF and UNFCCC secretariats cooperated closely on various climate finance issues. The UNFCCC secretariat was represented at the meetings of the GEF Council and Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, and provided input for the sixth replenishment of the GEF.

33. The GEF secretariat participated actively and regularly in the meetings of the SCF, which proved to be useful in the preparation of the guidance to the GEF by the SCF and in the work of the SCF on the fifth review of the Financial Mechanism. The GEF and UNFCCC secretariats together organized a joint retreat in 2014 at which the GEF climate change team discussed with different programmes in the secretariat matters related to their respective area of work. The retreat was a good opportunity to exchange information and strengthen relations between the two secretariats and contributed to the effective support of Parties in Lima, Peru.

C. Capacity-building

1. Framework for capacity-building in developing countries

34. The secretariat collaborates with a number of IGOs on collecting and compiling information needed by the COP, the CMP and their subsidiary bodies to review the progress on the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries.[13] In 2014, 11 IGOs submitted such information.[14] Moreover, the GEF and the secretariat continued discussions on enabling data exchange between the GEF database[15] and the capacity-building portal.[16]

35. The secretariat delivered presentations at the first global "Academy on the Green Economy" organized by the International Labour Organization in October 2014 to promote capacity-building for a socially inclusive green economy in developing countries.

2. Durban Forum on capacity-building

36. Cooperation with IGOs also takes place through the meetings of the Durban Forum on capacity-building. During the 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum,[17] held during the fortieth session of Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 40), representatives of IGOs[18] contributed to the deliberations by presenting their experiences with enhancing and/or creating enabling environments, including for the development and transfer of technology, with improving the sustainability of microfinance institutions, and with building the capacity of developing countries to assess options and implement mitigation and adaptation measures.

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[12] Decision 12/CP.2, annex, paragraph 10.

[13] Annex to decision 2/CP.7.

[14] See document FCCC/SBI/2014/2/Add.1. The submissions are also available on the UNFCCC capacity-building portal, at <http://unfccc.int/7204.php>.

[15] <https://www.thegef.org/gef/project_list>.

[16] <http://unfccc.int/7204.php>.

[17] See <http://unfccc.int/ 8121.php>.

[18] CTCN/UNEP, the GEF secretariat, the Frankfurt School–UNEP partnership, IRENA, the UNEP–DTU Partnership, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme and the Adaptation Fund Board secretariat.

3. United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness

37. The United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness[19] (UN Alliance) aims to support Parties in their activities related to the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention. The secretariat enhances coordination among the members of the UN Alliance by organizing teleconferences, calls and meetings. The 2nd annual meeting of the UN Alliance was organized by the secretariat and took place on 3 October 2014 in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting provided an opportunity to consult with members on (a) strategies to enhance the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention at the local, national and international levels; (b) discuss the organization of joint events at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development and COP 20/CMP 10; (c) consolidate the UN Alliance contribution to the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development; and (d) define priority actions related to Article 6 of the Convention in 2015.

38. Furthermore, the secretariat coordinated the participation of the UN Alliance at the 2014 UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development[20] held from 10 to 12 November in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, by organizing a joint side event, an exhibition and a workshop on climate change education. The conference marked the end of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014) and launched the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development under which the UN Alliance made a joint commitment. In addition, a high-level side event entitled "Climate Change Education and Training for Children, Youth and Adults: How to Make a Difference" was co-hosted by the UN Alliance at COP 20/CMP 10. The event showcased the ways United Nations entities were making a difference on the ground while collaborating on formal, non-formal and informal education.

4. The 2nd Dialogue on Article 6 of the Convention

39. The secretariat organized the 2nd Dialogue on Article 6 of the Convention,[21] held on 5, 8 and 11 June 2014 during SBI 40 with the participation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media. The Dialogue focused on public participation, public awareness and public access to information and on international cooperation thereon. The UN Alliance provided technical expertise and suggested good practices for the organization of the Dialogue as well as for the preparation of the report on good practices of stakeholder participation in implementing Article 6 of the Convention.[22]

5. United Nations Joint Framework Initiative on Children, Youth and Climate Change

40. The secretariat works together with United Nations entities and youth organizations to mobilize active and meaningful youth participation in the climate change process through the United Nations Joint Framework Initiative on Children, Youth and Climate

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[19] Intergovernmental entities that are members of the UN Alliance include the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Department of Public Information, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, UNEP, the UNFCCC secretariat, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations University, the World Health Organization, and WMO.

[20] See <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco-world-conference-on-esd-2014/>.

[21] See <http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/education_and_outreach/items/8210.php>.

[22] FCCC/SBI/2014/3.

Change.[23] In 2014, the secretariat organized regular meetings and teleconference calls so that members could share first-hand information on their youth-related projects, events, activities, publications, educational tools, campaigns and opportunities. Furthermore, the secretariat coordinated the participation of members of the Initiative in youth activities at SBI 40 and COP 20/CMP 10, such as high-level youth briefings, celebration of the "Young and Future Generations Day 2014", the "Intergenerational Inquiry" event, the United Nations Youth booth, as well as in interviews for young people at the climate change studio, a dedicated space for interviews at the COP venue.

41. Through its work on the Joint Framework Initiative, the secretariat continues to contribute to the implementation of the aspects of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Youth related to education, civic engagement and political inclusion.[24] In March 2014, the secretariat participated in the annual meeting of the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development hosted by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and reported on the activities developed to enhance the involvement and participation of youth in activities under Article 6 of the Convention and their attendance at intergovernmental meetings, including sessions of the COP.

6. One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership

42. The secretariat continues its close engagement with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) with regard to the advancement of the One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership (UN CC:Learn),[25] a cooperative initiative of 33 multilateral organizations. UN CC:Learn supports Member States, United Nations agencies and other development partners in designing and implementing results-oriented and sustainable learning to address climate change, as a direct contribution to the implementation of the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention.

43. The secretariat participated in the meeting of the steering committee of UN CC:Learn held in October 2014 in Geneva. Additionally, the secretariat provided technical assistance in selecting new countries that will develop and implement climate change learning strategies. In 2014, UN CC:Learn expanded from 5 countries (Benin, Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Malawi and Uganda) to 16 countries. The new countries selected are Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana and Niger, which will implement the programme nationally, and Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, which will implement a Central American subregional UN CC:Learn programme.

D. Adaptation

44. The secretariat collaborates with many IGOs and United Nations organizations in supporting adaptation activities, including through the work of the Adaptation Committee, in promoting synergy and in strengthening engagement with national, regional and

[23] Intergovernmental entities that are members of the Joint Framework Initiative include FAO, UNICEF, the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Division for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNDP, UNESCO, UNEP, the UNFCCC secretariat, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UNITAR, the United Nations Non-governmental Liaison Service, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Programme on Youth, United Nations Volunteers and the World Bank. NGOs that are members of the Joint Framework Initiative include the British Council, the Earth Child Institute, TakingITGlobal, SustainUS and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. Youth NGOs also participate in the Joint Framework Initiative through its two focal points.

[24] See <http://www.unsceb.org/content/un-system-wide-action-plan-youth>.

[25] See <http://www.uncclearn.org/>.

international organizations, centres and networks. The secretariat also supports, together with a wide range of organizations, the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), including the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action. Furthermore, the secretariat supports the work under the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs), and the work of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP). IGOs with which the secretariat cooperates on adaptation include the GEF secretariat, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNEP, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank.

1. Adaptation Committee

45. The Adaptation Committee advises the COP on adaptation to climate change. The Committee seeks to promote greater coherence in the approach to adaptation of all countries and to raise awareness of the importance of adaptation. The secretariat supports the work of the Committee, including by working with all IGOs involved in adaptation activities. Specific activities include:

(a) An in-session meeting held during the fortieth session of the subsidiary bodies to gather up-to-date information on adaptation, including on the limits of adaptation, in collaboration with Working Group II of the IPCC;[26]

(b) A special event, last organized during the fortieth session of the subsidiary bodies, that showcases Adaptation Committee activities and enables a dialogue with Parties and other relevant stakeholders. The event focuses on promoting synergy and strengthening engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks with the objective of, inter alia, helping the Adaptation Committee to further sharpen the focus of its work;[27]

(c) A meeting organized by the Adaptation Committee task force on NAPs with representatives of United Nations agencies, relevant multilateral and bilateral organizations and NGOs supporting the NAP process;[28]

(d) A workshop with the relevant bilateral, regional and multilateral institutions facilitating access to means of implementation (finance, technology and capacity-building), as well as with national development agencies, in collaboration with the GCF, on further promoting the implementation of enhanced action in a coherent manner under the Convention;[29]

(e) The second Adaptation Forum of the Adaptation Committee, held as part of the first Global Adaptation Network Forum and organized by UNEP.[30] This event successfully enhanced partnerships and networks and deepened collaborative efforts at both

[26] The report on the meeting is available at <unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/report_ipcc_ac_event_11_aug.pdf>.

[27] See <unfccc.int/8246>.

[28] The meeting took place on 26 and 27 September 2014 in Bonn. The report on the meeting is available at <unfccc.int/files/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/application/pdf/20140927r.pdf>.

[29] The meeting took place from 2 to 4 March 2015 in Bonn. See <unfccc.int/8860>.

[30] The first Global Adaptation Network Forum took place on 6 and 7 March 2015 in Panama City, Panama.

the regional and the international level, including efforts under the NWP Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative.[31]

46. The Adaptation Committee further invited regional institutions and United Nations agencies to communicate information on their current support for adaptation in developing countries. The Committee's ad hoc group on technical support analysed this information focusing on, among other relevant aspects, support gaps, needs and opportunities. The group is now in the process of elaborating modalities to strengthen and enhance the coherence of the provision of support to developing countries for activities related to adaptation.[32]

47. All Adaptation Committee meetings are open to observers, including IGOs. Observers have been invited to provide general statements at the opening and closing of the meetings and concrete suggestions during the discussions on specific agenda items, and to actively participate in the work of breakout groups. Such active engagement of observers and the possibility of feeding additional experience and expertise into the discussions was deemed to be beneficial for furthering the work of the Committee.

2. Least Developed Countries Expert Group

48. The secretariat continues to collaboratively facilitate the work of the LEG, in accordance with the mandate of the LEG to engage the GEF, its agencies and a wide range of organizations in implementing the work programme of the LEG.[33] Specific activities of the secretariat include:

(a) The invitation of the GEF and its agencies to the meetings of the LEG so as to continue to further explore issues faced by some least developed country (LDC) Parties in accessing funds from the Least Developed Countries Fund and to explore ways to further collaborate in order to support the work of the LEG;

(b) The invitation to the same meetings of organizations that are developing supplements to the technical guidelines for the NAP process;

(c) Interactions with the GCF on how best to support LDC Parties in accessing funding from the GCF for the process of formulating and implementing NAPs;

(d) The organization of the first two of the five regional training workshops on NAPs for 2014–2015,[34] in collaboration with the NAP Global Support Programme, the GEF and its agencies (UNDP, UNEP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)), other United Nations organizations and specialized agencies (WHO, WMO and UNITAR), regional centres and networks, and bilateral and multilateral agencies;

(e) The organization of the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG in collaboration with the UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting took place on 9–11 March 2015 in Bangkok;[35]

(f) Engagement of the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island

[31] See <https://www3.unfccc.int/pls/apex/f?p=333:1:3609006541679858>.

[32] See Adaptation Committee document AC/2014/22, available at <http://unfccc.int/7584.php>.

[33] Decision 8/CP.13, paragraph 5, and decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 5.

[34] One regional training workshop for Pacific LDCs, held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, from 3 to 7 November 2014, and one for Eastern and Southern Africa, held in Livingstone, Zambia, from 23 to 27 February 2015. See <http://unfccc.int/6101> and document FCCC/SBI/2014/4, paragraphs 10–12.

[35] See <http://unfccc.int/8875>.

Developing States on matters relating to the LDCs, including during the stocktaking meeting referred to above;

(g) The involvement of the GEF and its agencies, international organizations and agencies, and regional centres and networks in the NAP Expo in August 2014.[36]

3. Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

49. The Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism was established to guide the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism. The secretariat supports the work of the Executive Committee, including through collaboration with various organizations. Specific activities of the secretariat include:

(a) Coordination of the inputs to the draft initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism from relevant organizations, including United Nations agencies, and IGOs and NGOs;[37]

(b) Invitation to representatives of relevant international and regional organizations, and support to the initial meeting of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism, which was held in two parts. Parties and a broad range of expert observers from United Nations agencies, and IGOs and NGOs, took part in the work of the Executive Committee and were consulted on the outputs of its mandated work, with the secretariat making provisions to enable participation of off-site expert observers.[38]

50. The initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism, approved by COP 20, includes activities which call for engagement and collaboration of relevant organizations, including United Nations agencies and IGOs, with the Executive Committee.[39]

4. National adaptation plans

51. The secretariat's cooperation with various organizations continues to contribute to the process of formulating and implementing NAPs and the provision of support to LDC Parties and other developing country Parties that are not LDCs for this purpose. Specific activities of the secretariat since SBI 40 include facilitating the engagement of a wide range of organizations in supporting the LEG in its provision of technical guidance and support to the LDCs, as well as collaborating with the GEF and its agencies on designing support in response to mandates provided by the COP. The secretariat also collaborated with the International Telecommunication Union on a technical paper on 'information and communication technologies for climate change adaptation in cities', by communicating relevant information and guidelines on adaptation developed under the UNFCCC process.

52. Furthermore, the secretariat is among the partners of the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) for the LDCs.[40] The programme, established in response to an invitation made by the COP,[41] is aimed at supporting the LDCs through the brokering of knowledge, institutional support and technical support in order to advance their NAPs.

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[36] See <http://napexpo.org/2014/>.
[37] See <http://unfccc.int/8422>.
[38] Decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 8.
[39] Decision 2/CP.20, paragraph 1, and for the two-year workplan of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism, see annex II to document FCCC/SB/2014/4.
[40] See <http://www.undp-alm.org/projects/naps-ldcs>.
[41] Decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 23.

5. Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

53. The objective of the NWP is to assist all Parties, in particular developing country Parties, including the LDCs and small island developing States, to improve their understanding and assessment of the impacts of and vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures in order to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socioeconomic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability. The NWP addresses knowledge needs arising from Parties, including under the Cancun Adaptation Framework and other relevant workstreams and bodies under the Convention.

54. The NWP is implemented by Parties, IGOs and NGOs, the private sector, communities and other stakeholders. It disseminates knowledge and information on adaptation, and highlights the work of partners as widely as possible through a variety of knowledge products and publications. Organizations, institutions and private sector organizations at all levels, across a range of sectors can become engaged with and collaborate under the NWP by becoming a partner and making action pledges. Since its inception, the NWP has engaged over 300 partners, including a number of United Nations organizations and other IGOs.[42]

55. United Nations organizations and IGOs are critical in supporting the evolving work of the NWP, where the work programme is mandated to enhance collaboration with global and regional knowledge networks and NWP partners in order to strengthen the production and dissemination of knowledge on adaptation, and to invite regional centres and networks to serve as regional knowledge platforms for the implementation of the activities under the NWP.

56. The Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative is a collaborative effort by UNEP and the UNFCCC secretariat, and is an action pledge made under the NWP;[43] it was endorsed and launched by the COP 20 Presidency as a set of actions in order to further address adaptation to climate change under the Convention. The Initiative provides a means of consolidating the engagement of organizations under the NWP and a systematic approach to prioritizing adaptation knowledge gaps which need to be addressed by organizations through repackaging and/or disseminating data, information and knowledge. SBSTA 41[44] welcomed the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative and encouraged its replication in other subregions, particularly in vulnerable developing countries such as the LDCs, small island developing States and in Africa.

57. The eighth NWP Focal Point Forum was held in Lima in conjunction with SBSTA 41, and was attended by over 70 representatives from Parties and NWP partner organizations, including IGOs.[45]

58. SBSTA 40 agreed on a set of activities to be undertaken under the NWP, by SBSTA 45, in order to collect, analyse and disseminate information and knowledge to inform adaptation planning and actions at the regional, national and subnational levels, addressing ecosystems, human settlements, water resources and health.[46] These activities are to be undertaken under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, in collaboration with the

[42] A description of these partners is available at <unfccc.int/nwp>.

[43] The action pledge is available at <https://www3.unfccc.int/pls/apex/f?p=333:31:3931751897221714::NO::P31_ID:521>.

[44] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/5, paragraph 19.

[45] Further information is available at <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/nairobi_workprogramme/workshops_and_meetings/items/8789.php>.

[46] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraph 19.

Adaptation Committee, the LEG, and with contributions from relevant NWP partner organizations and regional centres and networks.[47] Specific activities include:

(a) The synthesis of information, submitted by Parties and NWP partner organizations, on adaptation planning and practices,[48] including 10 submissions from United Nations organizations and IGOs;

(b) The development of case studies highlighting good practices and lessons learned with inputs from Parties and partner organizations, which will be made available for consideration by SBSTA 43;[49]

(c) Ongoing engagement with regional centres and networks, including regional entities of United Nations organizations and IGOs, towards undertaking regional activities in order to share knowledge, which will be reported on at SBSTA 44.[50]

E. Mitigation

59. A number of IGOs worldwide are engaged in mitigation-related activities, including in the context of the pre-2020 mitigation, measurement, reporting and verification.

1. Advancing nationally appropriate mitigation actions, enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition and REDD-plus[51]

(a) Nationally appropriate mitigation actions

60. Pursuant to decision 1/CP.16, developing countries have agreed to implement nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) in the context of sustainable development, supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity-building, aimed at achieving a deviation in emissions relative to 'business as usual' emissions by 2020.

61. The secretariat collaborates closely with a number of international organizations and international initiatives on activities aimed at assisting developing countries in designing and implementing their NAMAs,[52] including:

(a) Organizing and conducting regional capacity-building workshops in order to facilitate the preparation and implementation of NAMAs;[53]

(b) Coordinating the work of the NAMA Partnership, a group of multilateral organizations, bilateral cooperation agencies and think tanks aimed at enhancing collaboration and complementarity in order to accelerate the provision of support to developing countries in designing and implementing their NAMAs;[54]

(c) Contributing to the coordination of the activities of three international partnerships: the NAMA Partnership, the Low Emission Development Strategies Global

[47] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraph 24.
[48] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/4 and FCCC/SBSTA/2014/MISC.8.
[49] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraph 24.
[50] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, paragraph 26.
[51] In decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, the COP encouraged developing country Parties to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities: reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.
[52] As requested in decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 23, and decision 16/CP.18, paragraph 11.
[53] Additional information is available at <http://unfccc.int/focus/mitigation/items/7429.php>.
[54] See <http://www.namapartnership.org/>.

Partnership and the International Partnership on Mitigation and measurement, reporting and verification;

(d) Cooperating with UNDP and the UNEP–DTU Partnership to produce technical material on various aspects of NAMAs, such as the *Guidance for NAMA Design*,[55] which was presented at COP 18.

(b) Workplan on enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition (Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action workstream 2)

62. Pursuant to decision 1/CP.19, Parties decided to accelerate their activities under the workplan on enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition in order to intensify the technical examination of opportunities for actions with high mitigation potential and to focus on the implementation of substantial, scalable and replicable actions.

63. Six in-session technical expert meetings (TEMs) were organized in order to identify good practice scalable policies, measures, actions and support options with the active engagement of non-State actors and multilateral partners. As a result of the TEMs, the visibility and transparency of ongoing collective action by and at all levels were enhanced. This was of critical importance for further trust- and confidence-building for the successful outcome of both increasing the pre-2020 ambition and the negotiations on the 2015 agreement.

64. In 2014, the following international organizations, partnerships and initiatives were involved in coordinating the TEMs and in the follow-up work thereon: UNEP, FAO, UNIDO, the Secretariat for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Ozone secretariat), the IPCC, the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, IEA, IRENA, Sustainable Energy for All, the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives Local Governments for Sustainability, C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the International Solid Waste Association, the International Fertilizer Industry Association, the Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute, IEA Greenhouse Gas Research and Development programme and the institutions of the UNFCCC. The secretariat has ongoing collaborative initiatives, mentioned below, with some of these organizations.

65. Under ADP workstream 2, with regard to land use, including forestry and agriculture, the secretariat cooperates with the World Bank and FAO, which are the lead organizations in these thematic areas. A number of other international organizations are involved in this process, including the Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, the Centre for International Forestry Research, the IPCC, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention) secretariat and the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme) secretariat.

(c) REDD-plus

66. The secretariat participated in and contributed to several forest-related activities with other member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, either jointly as a member of the Partnership or through collaboration with individual members of the

[55] Guidance for NAMA Design: Building on Country Experiences. Available at <http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org/docs/resources/Guidance_for_NAMA_Design_2013_.pdf>.

Partnership.[56] The secretariat is also an observer on the Policy Board of the UN-REDD Programme and collaborates closely with UN-REDD Programme partner agencies. Furthermore, the secretariat continues to follow, as an observer, the work related to REDD-plus of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the Forest Investment Programme under the Strategic Climate Fund of the World Bank.

2. Cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Maritime Organization

67. Following decision 18/CP.5, which requests the UNFCCC secretariat to continue to develop its cooperation with the secretariats of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the UNFCCC secretariat collaborates closely with both secretariats, in order to address emissions from international aviation and maritime transport.

68. The UNFCCC secretariat, in its role as observer, regularly participates in meetings of the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection under ICAO and the Marine Environment Protection Committee under IMO, informing Parties under these committees on relevant developments under the UNFCCC process and exchanging views with the secretariats of ICAO and IMO on relevant issues. In the context of the work of ICAO and IMO to address GHG emissions from international aviation and maritime transport, respectively, the secretariat also participates in technical working groups addressing climate relevant matters under both of these bodies. The UNFCCC secretariat seconded a staff member to the ICAO secretariat in order to support its ongoing work on market-based approaches to address GHG emissions from international aviation under ICAO.

69. In response to reoccurring invitations from the SBSTA, the secretariats of ICAO and IMO continuously report on their relevant actions to address GHG emissions from international aviation and maritime transport to the SBSTA under the agenda item, "Emissions from fuel used for international aviation and maritime transport".

3. Collaboration with the International Energy Agency

70. The secretariat collaborates closely with IEA on a number of issues. Every year it revises and provides comments on drafts of the World Energy Outlook published by IEA. Both organizations have regular exchanges in relation to energy-related issues, including on historical and projected energy and emissions data as well as on climate-related policies.

71. In addition, the secretariat maintains constant cooperation with IEA in the context of the expert reviews of national GHG inventories from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties), with a particular focus in 2015 on the changes required due to the transition to the new UNFCCC reporting guidelines for GHG inventories from Annex I Parties. These guidelines take on board the requirements of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*.

4. Collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme

72. The Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE), with support from the secretariat, collaborates with UNDP and UNEP (as joint administrators of the NAP-GSP). The NAP-

[56] The partner organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are: the Centre for International Forestry Research, the CBD secretariat, FAO, the GEF secretariat, the International Tropical Timber Organization, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, the UNCCD secretariat, UNDP, UNEP, the United Nations Forum on Forests secretariat, the UNFCCC secretariat, the World Agroforestry Centre and the World Bank.

GSP provides logistical and technical support to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) in order to facilitate the timely preparation and submission of their national communications and biennial update reports to the COP. Through their representation in the CGE, UNDP and UNEP contribute to various elements of the work programme of the CGE. Furthermore, the NAP-GSP will complement the efforts of the CGE by facilitating the provision of technical support to non-Annex I Parties at both the regional and national levels.

73. In the context of the intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs), pursuant to decision 1/CP.19, the secretariat cooperated with UNDP to organize a set of regional dialogues on this topic. A total of six dialogues were organized in the period April 2014 to February 2015 to assist countries with the preparation for their INDCs. The initiative also produced a report on sources of support[57] together with a manual, the most recent version of which was made available by mid-April 2015.

5. Collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

74. Building on the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) work in 2012–2013, which was actively supported by the UNFCCC secretariat, in November 2014, UNECE set up a project with the objective of defining "an internationally comparable set of key climate change-related statistics and indicators that can be derived from the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and other sources". The UNFCCC secretariat is contributing to the project through participation in the task forces and the steering group for the project.

6. Contribution to the operation of the United Nations wide data portal

75. The secretariat provides regular updates to the GHG data presented on the United Nations wide data portal,[58] which contributes to the portal's capability of serving as a United Nations wide platform for data dissemination within and outside the United Nations system.

7. Collaboration with the Secretariat for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

76. The UNFCCC secretariat collaborates with the Ozone secretariat in the context of addressing ozone depleting substances that have high global warming potential on a regular basis. Both, the UNFCCC secretariat and the Ozone secretariat closely coordinate their work on related issues and participate regularly at respective meetings. Through this reciprocal participation, UNFCCC secretariat expertise and knowledge contributes to the work under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, while expertise and knowledge from the Ozone secretariat can contribute to relevant work under the UNFCCC process.

77. This cooperation has been strengthened in recent years mainly in the context of ADP workstream 2, where TEMs were focusing on addressing non-carbon dioxide GHGs, including mitigation action on emissions of fluorinated gases. The Ozone secretariat made a valuable contribution to the successful outcomes of these meetings.

[57] Available at <http://unfccc.int/files/focus/mitigation/application/pdf/support_for_indcs.pdf>.
[58] <http://data.un.org/>.

8. Clean development mechanism and the Nairobi Framework

78. The Nairobi Framework[59] is an initiative that began with the collaboration of the secretariat with a number of agencies, including UNDP, UNEP and the UNEP–DTU Partnership (formerly UNEP Risoe Centre), the World Bank and the African Development Bank. The Nairobi Framework has the specific target of helping developing countries, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa, to improve their level of participation in the clean development mechanism (CDM).

79. Together, the partners of the Nairobi Framework, in cooperation with other organizations, continue to support the organization of the Africa Carbon Forum. The sixth forum was successfully delivered in July 2014 in Windhoek, Namibia. The secretariat also delivered capacity-building and engagement events in Windhoek in June 2014 and in Bangkok in October 2014. The Bangkok event was organized in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies.

80. The secretariat also organized a first-of-a-kind joint workshop on the CDM and NAMAs held in September 2014 in Bogota, Colombia. It brought together CDM designated national authorities to discuss various issues related to the promotion of the CDM and NAMAs in the Latin American and Caribbean region. The secretariat, in collaboration with the World Bank, the International Emissions Trading Association, the UNEP–DTU Partnership, the Latin American Energy Organization, the Development Bank of Latin America and UNDP, organized the Latin America and Caribbean Carbon Forum in September 2014 in Bogota.

81. Furthermore, the secretariat organized the global Designated National Authorities Forum held in November 2014 in Bonn.

82. Through its regional collaboration centres, the secretariat has intensified its direct support to project participants and developers for the development of new CDM projects and standardized baselines, and its support in other areas such as NAMA development.

83. Through the CDM Loan Scheme,[60] partners approved 25 new loans for projects located in countries with fewer than 10 registered CDM project activities, of which 7 were registered with support from the scheme, while others are currently undergoing validation and verification.

F. Climate knowledge: science, research and systematic observation

84. Cooperation with the WMO, the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) secretariat and other agencies has been a large and important component of the further development and enhancement of scientific knowledge on climate change through research and systematic observation of the climate system around the world. In this context, the secretariat continues to collaborate closely with scientific programmes, agencies and organizations, including the IPCC, WMO, GCOS, UNEP, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, UNESCO and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs.

85. The collaboration with the IPCC, in its role as the primary provider of scientific information to the UNFCCC process, has continued throughout the past year. The IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) is a key input for the 2013–2015 review. The secretariat closely follows the work of the IPCC and participates as an observer in its meetings, including plenaries for the approval of the contributions of Working Groups I, II and III of the IPCC to the AR5.

[59] <http://cdm.unfccc.int/Nairobi_Framework/index.html>.
[60] <http://cdmloanscheme.org/>.

86. The IPCC continuously responds to the various mandates and invitations arising from the UNFCCC process. The secretariat has collaborated with the IPCC as well as other United Nations and intergovernmental organizations in the following activities during the last reporting period:

(a) The 6th and 7th research dialogues, held during SBSTA 40 and 42, respectively;

(b) The workshop on enhancing observations to support preparedness and adaptation in a changing climate – learning from the AR5, held by GCOS, in collaboration with the IPCC and the UNFCCC secretariat, on 10–12 February 2015 in Bonn;[61]

(c) The 3rd and 4th structured expert dialogue meetings, which support the work of the SBSTA Joint Contact Group in order to ensure the integrity of the 2013–2015 review of the long-term global goal, held during SBSTA 40 and 41, and ADP 2.8,[62] were attended by 26 experts from the IPCC who made presentations and supported discussions, as well as participants from WMO, UNEP, UNCCD, CBD, FAO, WHO, the World Bank, and IEA.[63]

G. Gender

87. The secretariat continues its collaboration with other IGOs in order to mainstream gender considerations in various climate change thematic areas, raise awareness of the importance of gender considerations and celebrate women's climate action. The secretariat is also an active participant in the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and in the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality. Some of the secretariat's activities with a focus on gender and climate change or with gender-related components during the past year include:

(a) UNITAR, WMO and the secretariat, with the support of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), launched a Women's Leadership Programme, that recognizes the important role which women play in addressing climate change issues and seeks to build leadership skills in order to ensure gender equality in critical weather and climate contexts;

(b) The organization of a Gender Day at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Lima on 9 December 2014, which included a series of activities dedicated to the topic of gender and climate change. A number of IGOs, including UN Women, UNDP, WMO and the International Union for Conservation of Nature, cooperated with the secretariat in the organization of the Gender Day and led or actively contributed to the events held;

(c) In the context of the NWP, and in conjunction with an Adaptation Committee workshop on best practices and needs of local and indigenous communities, the organization of a TEM that, inter alia, addressed the application of gender-sensitive approaches and tools for understanding and assessing impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The meeting was attended by over 60 participants, including representatives of relevant international organizations and IGOs.

[61] More information is available at: <http://unfccc.int/science/workstreams/systematic_observation/items/8764.php>.

[62] More information is available at: <http://unfccc.int/science/workstreams/the_2013-2015_review/items/6998.php>.

[63] The report of the structured expert dialogue is contained in document FCCC/SB/2015/INF.1.

H. Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions

88. Through the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions, the secretariat maintains close cooperation with the CBD and UNCCD secretariats. Since SBSTA 40, the CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC secretariats have continued their collaboration, helping to highlight the synergies in the implementation of each convention on the ground and at the national level.

89. On 24 September 2014, the Executive Secretaries of these secretariats met in New York in order to discuss ways by which to enhance the collaboration between the secretariats and to seek opportunities to promote and raise awareness of the synergies in the implementation of their conventions.

I. United Nations Millennium Development Goals and the post-2015 development agenda

1. The Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the Millennium Development Goals Indicators

90. In 2000, the leaders of 189 nations agreed on a vision for the future: a world with less poverty, hunger and disease, greater survival prospects for mothers and their infants, better-educated children, equal opportunities for women and a healthier environment; a world in which developed and developing countries work in partnership for the betterment of all. That vision took shape in the eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which provide a framework of time-bound targets by which progress can be measured.

91. In order to help to track this progress, international and national statistical experts (organized into the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on MDG Indicators (IAEG)) selected indicators to assess progress over the period from 1990 to 2015, when targets are expected to be met. One of the MDG indicators is carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions (total, per capita and per unit of gross domestic product). The secretariat is a member of IAEG, providing CO_2 emission data for developed countries. Furthermore, the global and regional trends in CO_2 emissions are regularly covered in the annual MDG reports.[64]

2. The post-2015 development agenda

92. The discussions related to the policy processes of the post-2015 development agenda are closely linked to climate change, including the discussions of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals. Given the importance and interlinkages of the climate and the post-2015 development agenda processes, the secretariat closely follows the latter, recognizing that they are two separate but parallel processes.

93. As part of IAEG, the secretariat contributed to the formulation of lessons learned in the MDG process, in view of the ongoing activities across the United Nations system in order to develop the sustainable development goals to be pursued within the framework of a post-2015 development agenda.[65]

94. Furthermore, the secretariat continues its engagement with other United Nations entities and acts as co-lead, together with WMO, in providing substantive input to the Co-

[64] For the latest report, see *Millennium Development Goals Report 2014*. Available at <http://mdgs.un.org>.

[65] A summary of the lessons learned is available in the latest report of the Secretary-General on development indicators for monitoring the MDGs (United Nations Economic and Social Council document E/CN.3/2014/29).

Chairs of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals through the United Nations System Task Team on the Post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda. The synthesis report prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/6, reflected, among others, the discussions held within the United Nations System Task Team in order to ensure an integrated development agenda.

J. United Nations Global Compact

95. The private sector has significant potential to contribute, through technology and finance, to the fight against climate change. The secretariat continues its engagement in the Caring for Climate initiative with the Global Compact and UNEP. The initiative seeks to advance the role of business in addressing climate change. Under the Caring for Climate initiative, the secretariat engaged in the organization of a Business Forum during the Lima Conference in December 2014. The Business Forum brought together nearly 250 participants from over 30 countries, including business executives and leaders from the investment community, civil society, government and the United Nations. The companies represented at the Forum were from a variety of industries and sectors, such as financial and insurance services, food and beverage, consumer goods, information technology, heavy industry, utilities and energy, among others, and operated in major and emerging economies.

96. In 2014, the secretariat extended its engagement with the Global Compact and UNEP by agreeing on collaboration between the Caring for Climate initiative and the secretariat's Climate Neutral Now initiative in order to facilitate Caring for Climate signatories to take the next step towards achieving climate neutrality by offsetting their unavoidable emissions with United Nations certified emission reductions from the CDM. Likewise, signatories to Climate Neutral Now will be able to measure, reduce and report on their emissions, and will receive recognition for their actions by joining the Caring for Climate initiative.

K. Communications

97. The secretariat has intensified its efforts in its outreach and communications strategy, seeking to make the messages communicated on climate change simpler and easier to understand by the wider public, and to ensure that they portray the possibilities for and opportunities in addressing climate change. The secretariat works closely with the United Nations Department of Public Information on the overall communication of messages on climate change towards ensuring consistency and coordination across the entire United Nations system.